

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Hiroyuki SUGAWARA et al.
Serial No. : 10/638,988
For : DATA STORAGE SYSTEM
Filed : August 12, 2003
Examiner : Jay A. Morrison
Art Unit : 2168
Confirmation No.: : 6298

745 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10151

<p><u>CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING</u></p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via Electronic Filing Services on October 23, 2007.</p> <p><u>PATRICIA A. DUBYNE</u> (Name of person signing transmittal)</p> <p><u>Patricia A. Dubyne</u> Signature</p> <p><u>October 23, 2007</u> Date of Signature</p>

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FILED WITH
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Mailstop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The following amendment is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination and is responsive to the Office Action mailed October 9, 2007. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.